24 April 1975

Dear Harold:

The two Congressional Quarterly chronology volumes are going via separate 4th class cover.

Herewith a rewrite job on your conning tower piece. This is by far the easiest way to deal with it. To try to shorten it by editing would have involved recopying anyway.

This can be shortened still further by some 200 words by eliminating the reference to Whitewash IV. This would involve skipping from the end of the 4th paragraph on page 3 ‡.x x multiple investigation." down to the last graph beginning "The mystery x x x."

I left it in because I thought you wanted the plug, for one thing, and for another the Dulles quotes are entirely relevant.

The whole affair of the Glomar Explorer seems to have been forgotten, and for that reason I tried to freshen your approach a bit by including in the 3rd paragraph a reference to the fact that there's talk of sending her out to sea again. Otherwise, I added nothing; only cut out whole sections and references to simplify things and did what rearranging ‡ I thought essential to put your ideas in maximum juxtaposition. One problem with your draft was that whereas you announce the existence of the one all-important to-be-bulldogged fact on the first page, you don't disclose what it is until the penultimate graf. That's just more suspense than the truck driver in Omaha will put up with, assuming he doesn't get lost en route.

Hope this at least gives you some idea for your own fresh start.

Best,

jdw